



Accountability Unity Transparency Equality

## One Heart, One Mind, was the Theme of This Year's Flag Day Address



**April 18, 2013**-In his first Flag Day address as chief executive, Governor Lolo Matalasi Moliga continued his push for leaders and the people of America Samoa to unite as one, saying it is only through "one mind and one heart" that the territory can overcome any challenges ahead.

Lolo said our forefathers in their wisdom and foresight exhibited this unity 113 years ago when they made a "giant leap of faith" and entrusted the future of our people under the care of the United Staets of America. He said it the collective wisdom of our forefathers that was inspired by the divine guidance which made it possible for us to enjoy the freedom and privileges not readily available to all citizens of the world.

The governor said when other insular areas celebrate independence or liberation day; American Samoa celebrates Flag Day which

denotes a "deep sense of patriotism and pride of being Americans." He said on this day, American Samoa not only pays tribute to its forefathers for not only being "forward thinkers" but for their foresight and wisdom and above all their love "which gave rise to all the benefits we enjoy today."

The governor said he is mindful that the achievement of his vision for a unified American Samoa will require the support and commitment of the private sector. Lolo said as American Samoa looks ahead, it should never forget "the wisdom of the past" and he paid tribute to the late governors Peter Tali Coleman, AP Lutali, and Tauese Sunia and former governor Togiola Tulafono "for their leadership and foresight "which afforded me the privilege and opportunity to stand here today."

Lolo also acknowledged the support of leaders of the judiciary and legislature, plus Congressman Faleomavaega and Department of Interior. He said the joy of today's celebration is dampened by the Boston marathon bombings.

The governor also ordered all flags in American Samoa to flown at half-staff in honor of the Boston marathon victims. Lolo said American Samoa joins President Obama in expressing condolences to the families of the victims and prayers for the speedy recovery of those who were wounded. Three people were killed, including an 8-year-old boy, and more than 170 were wounded in Monday's bombing.

During his spiritual message Vicar General

### Calendar of Events:

Gov Pay Day	Apr 22
At Risk Meeting	Apr 22
Newsletter Distb.	Apr 22
Vol 1 Issue 13	Apr 29

## What's New

*Letter to the Editor*  
pg. 2

*Celebrity Chef*  
pg. 3

*Business License*  
pg. 5

## Flag Day Recap



### Flag Day Address Cont'd

of the Catholic Diocese of Samoa -Pago pago Father Viane Etuale called for a moment of silence for the Boston bombing victims. He said may the souls of those faithful departed rest in the peace, love and warmth be with their families.

Father Viane promoted the spirit of service to others in his remarks, saying this is what Jesus favors. He said in the past, a neighbor would be able to borrow salt or sugar from his neighbor, but nowadays it's frowned upon. He also said we shouldn't just let the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints pick up the trash on Flag Day, but join them. He said Jesus measured greatness not by status but by service.

During the ceremony, close to 30 high school students took their oath of enlistment performed by Congressman Faleomavaega Eni Hunkin.

The ceremony also featured a presentation



by the Fono. Secretary of the Senate Leo'o Ma'o presented a Senate Concurrent Resolution to Coast Guard Commander and \*Captain\* of the Port Honolulu \*Captain\* Joanna\*Nunan for\* the services to the people of American Samoa.

The Flag Day parade was one of the biggest seen in recent years. About 2,000 StarKist employees participated and the biggest private employer presented 100 cases of wahoo to ASG in honor of StarKist's 50th anniversary this year. Courtesy: talanei.com

## Letter to the Editor

### Dear Editor and Publisher of ASG Weekly News:

As former Director of our Government under previous Administrations, first, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to Governor Moliga and Lemanu for some of the long over-due changes that are moving through the grapevines that I, for one, have been trying to share with the past administration to get fixed, but to no avail (Certainly am not trying to degrade the integrity of anyone as I was also a member of last admins that faced with these same problems namely, roads, schools, hospitals, just to name the few.). For instance, I feel that, if there is anything far more important that needs close attention of the current administration to get fixed in their first four years, it would be our roads, especially the eastern side, mainly from Laulii to Amouli. Why?

(Every single person on this island uses the road). Much concentration for improvements

are targeted at the Western side roads and Route One from airport to Market Place, but none whatsoever for the Eastern Side of the Island. For the sake of our people at the eastern side, I beg the Governor and Public Works Director to kindly and generously consider the Eastern Side Roads in their list of top priorities, at least a 2inch resurfacing on the worst sections. Oh by the way, It would also be ideal if DPW Road

Maintenace Crew spend time to clear the bushes along the road sides at he eastern side, now that Contracts and ASG employees are taking care of the road side from Airport to Pago. DPW Crew are hardly seen on the road and I wonder what are they doing.

**Faafetai, and keep up the good work.  
Fanuatele Toafa Vaiagae, Ph.D**

## Celebrity Chef "Sam Choy" Showcases Easy-to-Make Gourmet Cuisine Using Locally Grown Produce...

**April 19, 2013-** Several members of the business community and the American Samoa Government were at the conference room of the Department of Agriculture (DOA) this afternoon to watch Celebrity Chef Sam Choy cook as they sampled some of the delicious dishes the Chef and the staff of DOA had prepared from locally grown produce.

The Celebrity Chef said that there is nothing better than cooking food using the products that are locally grown because it is much healthier and it does not cost a lot of money.

Some of the food Sam Choy cooked today using local produce was the chicken curry, papaya-pineapple marmalade, beef stir fry, salad,



and his very popular 4 ingredient dressing, all of which were made from vegetables and fruits grown here in American Samoa.

Some of the crowd asked Chef Choy about his take on the food that was served during Flag Day—he said the food was great but there was no wow factor. He said if he was in-charge of the menu he would have incorporated it our local cuisine "...instead of potatoes and rolls, I would put in taro or breadfruit, my menu would have a local flair with my twist..." he said with a smile.

Director of DOA, Lealao Melila Purcell thanked all the ASG Departments who supported the Chef's trip such as, KVZK Television,

-9272.



and his very popular 4 ingredient dressing, all of which were made from vegetables and fruits grown here in American Samoa.

Lealao also mentioned that Chef Choy will be back on island December 23rd through the 26th of this year and he will work especially with the Secretary of Samoan Affairs HC Satele, so they can develop agricultural awareness to the villages. He said more will be discussed in the



upcoming months prior to the chef's return.

For more information about the Celebrity Chef Sam Choy and some of his famous recipes please call the Department of Agriculture at 699

### Flag Day Recap



### SHARE IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES

with our ASG workforce as well as the citizens of American Samoa.

Email your articles, announcements, pictures or other information at

weekly@as.gov

## Business License Application Streamlined



**April 18, 2013-** In alignment with the Governor's vision to put people first in an effective and efficient manner, the Department of Commerce (DOC), under its new leadership, Director Keniseli Lafaele, are in the final stages of completing a system that will streamline the business application process. Potential business owners, especially small businesses, have been often discouraged and deterred by the lengthy and time-consuming system currently in place. It would take applicants 2 to 3 months, sometimes longer, to obtain a business license just to set up a snack shop or retail store. With the new

and improved policy in place, "the people" will not only be relieved but will also help boost our local economy. Governor Lolo Moliga is an adamant advocate of expanding our local businesses and the entire private sector as a whole.

Thankfully, with the new administration and leadership, DOC is changing from the old broken system to a new, effective and efficient system that will streamline the length of turnaround time from months to days (1-2 days). How it will work is basically setting up a "one stop shop" at DOC. Every applicant will pick up and submit applications at DOC who will then review it for completeness and to ensure all required documents are attached. If everything is in place, DOC will approve the license then forward it to Treasury for collection of license fee and issuance of the license. (The only exception is if an applicant is majority owned by a non-US national or citizen, or non-permanent resident of American Samoa which warrants the application to be submitted before the Territorial Planning Commission for further review.)

Upon issuance of the license, Treasury will then return the original application back to DOC. At this point, DOC will forward the application to all the proper agencies involved in the approval process for clearance, such as the Tax Office, Workmen's Compensation, Credit & Collection, and Public Health. The applicant will no longer have to deal with this particular part of the process themselves, as it is a tedious task. Once the clearances are approved, DOC will notify the applicant to proceed with opening his/her business.

Even though this new policy has not been implemented yet as it is still being reviewed by DOC and the Governor's office, it is still good news for the public to be aware of the fact that the government is doing its best to make proper changes that will effectively and efficiently enhance our way of life as well as developing our local economy to a more stable condition. Please stay tuned for further information regarding this new and upcoming policy at DOC.

### Another Look at Flag Day 2013 -"Unity"

